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House of Representatives

The House met at 10 a.m. and was called to order by the Speaker.

MORNING-HOUR DEBATE

The SPEAKER. Pursuant to the order of the House of January 3, 2019, the Chair will now recognize Members from lists submitted by the majority and minority leaders for morning-hour debate.

The Chair will alternate recognition between the parties. All time shall be equally allocated between the parties, and in no event shall debate continue beyond 11:50 a.m. Each Member, other than the majority and minority leaders and the minority whip, shall be limited to 5 minutes.

THE PRESIDENT IS NOT ABOVE THE LAW

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Texas (Mr. GREEN) for 5 minutes.

Mr. GREEN of Texas. Madam Speaker, and still I rise. I rise because I love my country, and I rise today because we are celebrating and commemorating, to a certain extent, Juneteenth, when General Gordon Granger arrived in Galveston, Texas, to alert, announce to the slaves, if you will, that they had been freed pursuant to the Emancipation Proclamation.

I am pleased that General Granger did this. I am pleased because liberation is a wonderful thing. Nobody should be enslaved. But I am also concerned that that liberation has not completely obliterated the bigotry that ensued after the liberation.

In this country, we still suffer from bigotry, hatred, racism, homophobia, xenophobia, Islamophobia, all of the various ugliness that can cause some people to receive less than the American Dream that others receive.

And here in this country today, we, in the House of Representatives, have a

unique opportunity to do something about bigotry in our country. We have an opportunity to do something about a President who has now been above the law for some 63 days, 63 days since the Mueller report was presented to the public, 63 days above the law since the Mueller report.

My contention is he has been above the law since he fired Mr. Comey some 2 years plus ago. But the President being above the law is something that can be remedied.

Babies shouldn't be separated from their parents. I read a story just yesterday about the youngest person to be separated, a 4-month-old baby, separated from parents for approximately 6 months. The baby was separated for such a prolonged period of time that the baby did not recognize the parents when the unity took place with the parents, the reuniting took place.

I am so saddened by these kinds of incidents, but the truth is, the House of Representatives can do something about bigotry emanating from the Presidency. The House of Representatives can impeach a President for bigotry emanating from his Presidency.

And I believe that this House should do this, but I am also saddened by the fact that we appear to be a House that is driven by polls.

Polls direct us, snapshots in time, about the opinions of the public. I am saddened by the fact that we seem to be driven by polls because I can only imagine what would have happened had they taken a poll before crossing the Edmund Pettus Bridge on Bloody Sunday.

I can only imagine what the poll would have said if Rosa Parks had taken one before she took that seat in a racist southern town on that bus.

I can only imagine what the polls would have said if Lincoln had decided to poll the country before moving forward with the Emancipation Proclamation or the 13th Amendment.

Polls should not drive a righteous cause; a righteous cause should drive the polls.

It is time for this Congress that has the authority to move forward with impeachment to do so. We have not served our country well by relying on polls. Polls are wonderful, but not for righteous causes.

With a righteous cause, you take a stand, and you move forward. When you don't take that cause, you are not serving a righteous cause well.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. CUELLAR). Members are reminded to refrain from engaging in personalities toward the President.

INTRODUCING THE FEED EMERGENCY ENHANCEMENT DURING DISASTERS ACT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from South Dakota (Mr. JOHNSON) for 5 minutes.

Mr. JOHNSON of South Dakota. Mr. Speaker, it is wet in farm country. In fact, our corn planting is so far behind that many South Dakota producers aren't quite sure how they are going to feed the 5 million cattle that are in our State.

Now, these producers don't want a new government program. They cannot feed their cattle dollar bills. What they want, what they need, is the flexibility to help themselves.

That is why Congresswoman ANGIE CRAIG and I introduced the FEEDD Act. It would provide the USDA the flexibility needed so that producers can go in and hay, graze, or chop cover crops that are on prevent plant acres and do that before November 1. Moving that date from November 1 to September 1 could make a real impact. The forage we need will come from those acres. It will come from that flexibility.

Already this bill has received 27 co-sponsors and has been endorsed by 17

□ This symbol represents the time of day during the House proceedings, e.g., □ 1407 is 2:07 p.m.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.



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